

Remarks

Claims 1-30 are pending in the present application. Reconsideration and allowance are requested in view of the above amendments and the remarks below. These amendments are being made to facilitate early allowance of the presently claimed subject matter. Applicants do not acquiesce in the correctness of the objections and rejections and reserve the right to pursue the full scope of the subject matter of the original claims in a subsequent patent application that claims priority to the instant application.

Claims 4-11, 14-15, 20-26, and 29-30 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter. Accordingly, dependent claims 4 and 20 have been amended into independent form.

Claims 1-3, 12-13, 16-19, and 27-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) over Vangal et al. (U.S. Patent Application 2005/0165985), hereafter "Vangal." This rejection is defective because Vangal fails to disclose each and every feature of the claims as required by 35 U.S.C. 102(e).

Claim 1 sets forth:

"A method for completion processing, comprising:
processing inbound TCP segments; and
performing completion processing of received TCP ACKS
independently of the processing of the inbound TCP segments,
wherein the processing of the inbound TCP segments continues
without waiting for the completion processing of each received TCP
ACK to finish."

Vangal does not disclose, *inter alia*, "performing completion processing of received TCP ACKS independently of the processing of the inbound TCP segments, wherein the processing of the inbound TCP segments continues without waiting for the completion processing of each received TCP ACK to finish." On the contrary, the states 150 and 160 of Vangal (FIG. 5), which the Examiner has equated to the above-referenced independent processing, are clearly dependent upon each other, as evidenced by the interconnecting arrow. Further, the scheduler 2116 and processing engine 2110 of Vangal [0124] do not provide the above-referenced independent processing such that the "processing of the inbound TCP segments continues without waiting for the completion processing of each received TCP ACK to finish" as claimed.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 1-30 are allowable.

Applicants submit that each of the pending claims is patentable for one or more additional unique features. To this extent, Applicants do not acquiesce to the Examiner's interpretation of the claimed subject matter or the references used in rejecting the claimed subject matter. These features have not been separately addressed herein for brevity. However, Applicants reserve the right to present such arguments in a later response should one be necessary.

If the Examiner believes that anything further is necessary to place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

/ John A. Merecki /

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